

DATE
May '25

The Surrey Tennis Quarterly is all about sharing the *best* news from across the County

EDITION
No.6

SURREY TENNIS

QUARTERLY



OFFICE NEWS

page 3

COMPETITIONS

page 7

PERFORMANCE

page 12

VENUES

page 16

DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

page 20

COACHING

page 22

PADEL

page 25

welcome TO THE STQ



A NOTE FROM... *the chairman*

Recognition and appreciation lie at the heart of our annual Awards ceremony. Once again, there was so much to applaud when we gathered at the All England Club to give a huge shout-out to all our players, volunteers, officials, coaches, helpers, and everyone else that makes Surrey Tennis such a great county to be involved with. Much more is revealed about their achievements and contributions in this edition of the Surrey Tennis Quarterly. It also shows the strength-in-depth of the game in Britain.

Talking of talent and depth, one statistic you might not be aware of is that the UK is now the leader in tennis participation across the world! Of the 106 million people playing tennis across the world, an increase of 26% in the past five years, Great Britain has the highest percentage of the population playing tennis of any of the 199 nations who contributed to a recent International Tennis Federation

(ITF) report. The health of the game and its grass-roots popularity is something the LTA, counties, and government have worked hard to achieve as part of the vision of “Tennis Opened Up”.

Grass-roots is where it all begins, which is a timely reminder it is only a month before the first lawn tennis championship of the season begins. This will be held in Birmingham starting June 2nd – a combined men’s and women’s tournament for the first time. The following week will see the return of a tour level women’s event in London for the first time in over 50 years, as The Queen’s Club plays host to a WTA 500 event, followed by the hugely popular men’s ATP 500 tournament in the usual slot. Eastbourne precedes Wimbledon. We would like to wish everyone involved in Surrey a wonderful season of lawn tennis!



SUMMER ‘25 LAUNCH

The summer 2025 season is almost upon us as our Wilson Surrey Leagues, Surrey Knockouts and LTA Youth League and National league are ready to get underway!

A reminder that all event information such as draws, rules and key documents can be found via the captain’s areas of the Surrey Tennis website. Just head to www.surrey.tennis/competitions to explore. Good luck for the season!



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

MAY

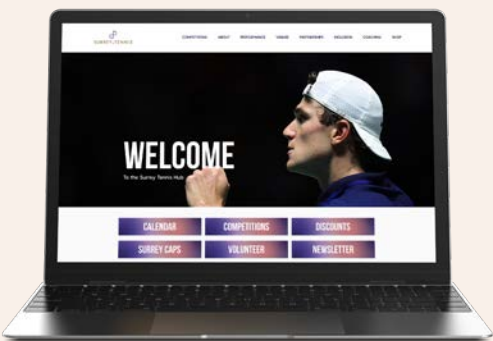
- 1st: Seniors School Festival – Girls, St. George’s College
- 2nd: Seniors School Festival – Boys, St. George’s College

JUNE

- 18th: School League Finals – Girls, St. George’s College
- 19th: School League Finals – Boys, St. George’s College
- 21st: Rootham and Branston Shields Finals, Venue TBC
- 21st/22nd: PYWTW (play your way to wimbledon) – Adult and Junior Doubles at Purley Sports Club

JULY

- 12th/13th: PYWTY (play your way to wimbledon) Junior 14s Singles at AELTC Community Tennis Centre
- 27th: Surrey Knockouts finals day at Oxshott Tennis Club



HAVE YOU VISITED THE NEW SURREY TENNIS HUB?

Our new Surrey Tennis Hub features an interactive calendar, competition access, venue info, and a merchandise store, it’s your go-to for all things Surrey. Enjoy exclusive discounts, and stay connected. Just head to www.surrey.tennis/surrey-tennis-hub

2025 SURREY TENNIS CHARITY GOLF AND TENNIS DAY

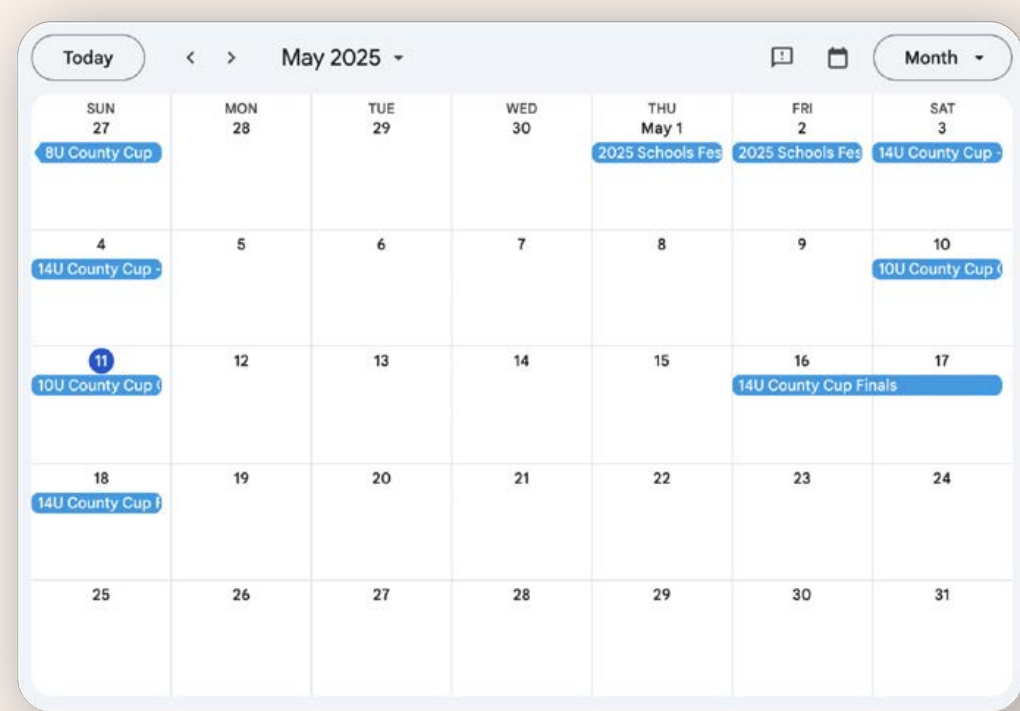
12TH JUNE - IN AID OF THE WEST SURREY MOTOR NEURONE DISEASE ASSOCIATION AND ALZHEIMER’S SOCIETY

We hope you will join us for our fifth annual Charity Golf and Tennis Day. We will be returning to the scenic West Surrey Golf Club for a team competition, so start getting your team together. For those of you who don’t play golf, the West Surrey Tennis Club will be hosting a fun tennis tournament!

Deadline for entry is 1st June.



To sign up for the golf event, tennis event or just the BBQ just head to: www.surrey.tennis/golf-day
For any questions, contact doug@millmead.net



NEVER MISS A DATE

We’re excited to launch the brand-new Surrey Tennis Calendar, now available through the Surrey Tennis Hub – your one-stop destination for all things tennis in the county. Designed with clubs, coaches, venues and players in mind, the calendar brings together every key date in the Surrey tennis year, all in one place. From County Cup fixtures and league deadlines to coach education events, competition weekends and school festivals, it’s now easier than ever to stay informed and plan ahead. You can access the shared calendar via www.surrey.tennis/surrey-tennis-hub.



justin's TOP TIPS

IN THIS EDITION OF JUSTIN’S TIPS: LEARN HOW TIMING YOUR ENERGY RELEASE JUST BEFORE CONTACT CAN MAXIMISE POWER AND SHOT QUALITY.

Just like in boxing, golf, hockey, and every sport where contact is key, try to release the energy into the tennis ball just before contact. The ‘spark’ or ‘pulse’ is delivered more cleanly when lined up relatively quietly prior to the moment the racket releases its energy. The timing of the ‘strike’ is critical to the quality—and therefore the effectiveness – of the shot. Remember: FIRE – JUST – PRIOR. So next time you take to the court- whether it’s a Wilson Surrey League match, a club tournament, or any other event – keep this tip in the back of your mind. Remember, focus is key.

UNIQUE TENNIS ESCAPES



Luxury hosted trips to Europe’s best resorts and tennis centres. Costa Navarino is a prime sustainable Mediterranean destination in Greece’s southwest Peloponnese, with unspoilt and breathtaking Ionian seaside landscapes. Indulge in extensive optional activities, from spa treatments and golf to cultural excursions, all seamlessly arranged.

A bespoke tennis programme designed by the Mouratoglou Tennis Centre exclusively for TennisOx. Rigorously selected and trained in the Patrick Mouratoglou methodology, the coaches are passionate, devoted to the sport and with vast experience. All play is on state-of-the-art clay courts, with no more than four players per court per coach.



PERFECT FOR INDIVIDUALS, COUPLES, GROUPS AND NON-PLAYING COMPANIONS.





A DAY TO
Remember
AT THE CELEBRATION
OF SURREY TENNIS

One hundred and ninety Surrey Tennis players, LTA Award Winners and special guests signed up to attend our Celebration of Surrey Tennis which took place on a warm, sunny afternoon at the AELTC, Church Road, Wimbledon on the afternoon of the 12th April 2025.

Guests began arriving for drinks in the Terrace Room in Court Number 1 from 3pm. With the doors out onto the balcony thrown open, our jazz band from the London Pianoforte Network, dressed in Wimbledon colours, could be heard playing inside and

out. At the back of the room, Surrey FaceBooth had set up a photobooth which was popular with our junior and adult guests alike. Robert Bone was circulating round the guests demonstrating his amazing close-up magic and Leo from Wilkinson Photography was on hand to take photos throughout the event.

At 3:30, our County Cup players were called outside to have their photo taken in front of the Fred Perry statue. If you go to the Summer County Week at Devonshire Park in July, look out for their photo in the programme.

Guests then made their way to their tables in the Courtside Room for the LTA Awards. Winners were introduced and invited up on stage to collect their trophy from our Surrey Tennis President, Roy Staniland, assisted by David Lovejoy (our retiring Chair of Awards), and given a chance to speak by our compere, Surrey Tennis Performance Manager Justin Sherring. We were very sad that Max England, from this year's The Apprentice, was ill and could not be with us, but Justin did a great job in his absence.

Dinner and more photobooth visits were the order of the day from 5:00–6:00, after which we introduced as many Surrey County Cup players as could be there. We started with our four very special junior player awards – our Endeavour and Progress Cups. We were especially pleased that Ollie Bonding and Liv Zingg could be there.



OFFICE news

They both gave an inspiring insight into their tennis journeys which many of the younger County Cup players found very interesting. Tomas Gabor couldn't be with us, but his mum Irena and coach Alison Taylor were on hand to give their views on what a player's support team contributes to a player's success.

Then we turned our attention to all the players who contributed to Surrey winning the LTA County Cup Race. As we progressed through the age groups, the number of players got fewer and fewer – as many were already away competing – but we still had a good turnout from last year's 9&U, 10&U, 11&U, 12&U, 14&U and

18&U teams. Our juniors did so well, our 11s, 14s and 18s were chosen by the LTA to represent England in the Four Nations Cup in Ireland, and they only went and won it! Not to be outdone, our men's Summer County Cup team were the national champions for the second time in a row, and our ladies worked very hard to maintain their position in Division 1 too. We also had representation of our Winter County Cup teams on hand to collect their trophies. The final Race team acknowledged were our Over 35s teams.

For the first time, we selected a team to be our Senior County Cup Team of the Year. This went to our men's

Over 50 team, who were one of our national finalists, but the only one to win all of their rubbers. While the 14 Surrey Senior teams do not contribute to the County Cup Race points, they are a very important part of the Surrey Tennis family of players.

Following our awards, guests were treated to dessert, tea and coffee before making their way home.

It was a great day, enjoyed by all, and we thank everyone who turned out to make it such a special occasion.



Our 2024 Award Winners

- Surrey Patrons' Progress Cup: Liv Zingg
- Jean Thirwall Cup for Endeavour: Allegra Korpanec Davies
- East Croydon Progress Award: Tomas Gabor
- Roger Webb Boys Endeavour Award: Oliver Bonding
- Jean Sexton Memorial Award of Outstanding Achievement: Jack Draper
- Official of the Year: Freya Pock
- President's Award: Andy Low
- Tennis Opened Up Award: Boom Community Tennis
- Performance Coach of the Year: Justin Sherring
- University of the Year: Royal Holloway
- Park Venue of the Year: All Star Tennis
- Volunteer of the Year: Jim Holloway
- Competition of the Year: Surrey Schools Festival
- Coach of the Year: Ben Mason
- Club of the Year: Weybridge LTC
- County Cup Team of the Year Award: Four Nations
- Senior County Cup Team of the Year: Men's Over 50s Team
- Surrey Tennis Showcase Photo of the Year: Junior Four Nations Squad
- LTA Youth League County Team of the Year: MDL Purley Bury 16U Boys
- LTA Youth League Premier Team of the Year: Weybridge Warriors 10U



A KNOCKOUT EVENT

BY MANDY SPICER

The Surrey Knockouts are twice-yearly competitions known as the Winter and Summer Knockouts.

Players enter online, and in the most recent Winter Knockouts we had 345 entries, many of whom competed in multiple events. For this summer, over 400 players have signed up to take part.

Once the draws are made, players receive their first-round details from the Surrey Tennis volunteer responsible for that specific event. We're supported by a fantastic team of 11 volunteers who oversee 20 events, covering a range of age groups from open categories to Over 65s, in both singles and doubles formats.

Players are informed of their opponent's name and contact details, who has home advantage, and by what date the match must be completed. The home player(s) is then expected to offer at least three possible dates to arrange the match.

Winners progress to the next round, and the competition continues...

We regularly receive feedback from players saying how much they enjoy meeting new people and taking part – especially those competing for the first time!

The finals of the Winter Knockouts, which began back in October, were held on 22 March at Magdalen Park Lawn Tennis Club. The club has been a wonderful host for the past few years, and once again made everyone feel extremely welcome. Of the 20 finals scheduled, just one was postponed due to a player being stranded abroad during the unexpected Heathrow Airport closure. Despite that, the day was action-packed, with high-quality tennis across six courts.

Spectators came out in force to support their players, and there was a fantastic atmosphere throughout the club. Many took full advantage of the food and drink available on the day too. Although the weather forecast

looked bleak, we were incredibly lucky – while storms raged around us, we had only a few minutes of light drizzle and managed to play through the day without interruption.

The event was refereed by our regular, highly experienced official Carole Heritage, who expertly juggled the day's match schedule.

The Men's Singles title was won by top seed Simon Bramwell, who came from a set down to defeat second seed Paul Marchant in a competitive final.

In the Men's Doubles, Robert Mitchell and Jorge Wilton claimed victory in two close sets.

Lyla Read had a busy – and incredibly successful – day. She started in the Ladies' Singles, defeating Olivia Dawkins after a tight first-set tiebreak, and never looked back. She then teamed up with Samantha Haslett in the Ladies' Doubles. Unseeded and up against the experienced duo of Olivia Berry and Lowri James, they came through a tight second set full of long games to claim the title.

Immediately after, Lyla returned to court with her dad Greg for the Mixed Doubles final. Having beaten previous winners in the semi-finals, they faced another strong pair – Caroline Joy and Ben Causer – and proved too strong on the day.

Lyla, who is only 14, made history by taking home all three main titles – a remarkable achievement and certainly a name to watch!

The Summer Knockout finals will take place at Oxshott Village Sports Club on Sunday 27 July. If you're not playing, do come along and enjoy some brilliant competitive tennis!

Lyla, who is only 14, made history by taking home all three main titles – a remarkable achievement and certainly a name to watch!

EWELL CASTLE REPRESENT ENGLAND

Students from Ewell Castle School in Surrey took home a silver and a bronze medal after representing England at the International Schools Federation U15 Gymnasiade event in Serbia.

The competition – an international multi-sport event for countries all over the world – featured 25 sports including tennis.

Ewell Castle were selected to represent England in the event after winning the LTA Youth Schools Year 7&8 competition last year.

Nicholas Kizys and Daniel Pratt took home the silver medal in the boys' doubles event with a stellar run to the final before losing out to Chinese duo Yaoyu Yang and Junze Wu. Meanwhile, Neo Armus reached the semi-finals of the boys' singles before closing out a successful week with victory against Talha Bulut to clinch the bronze medal.

Congratulations to the whole team on a brilliant week competing against top opposition from around the world.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

- Wilson Leagues Men's Open – Division 5+ Groups 1
- Wilson Leagues Men's Open – Division 5+ Groups 2
- Wilson Leagues Men's 45s and 55s
- Knockouts Men's Open Doubles

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact competitions@surrey.tennis



SURREY SCHOOLS FESTIVAL 2025: A RESOUNDING SUCCESS

The 2025 Surrey Schools Festival was one for the history books - not only in numbers but in the incredible energy and sportsmanship shown by every player, teacher and supporter involved.

This year's event saw 45 schools, 248 teams and an impressive 496 players take to the courts, showcasing the continued strength of schools tennis across the county. From the first serve to the final point, the spirit of the competition was nothing short of inspirational.

Surrey has a long and proud history of school tennis, and this year's festival reaffirmed its importance as a cornerstone of our Surrey Tennis community. With so many pupils taking part — many representing their schools for the very first time — it's clear that this event continues to play a vital role in opening up the sport and giving young players a chance to experience competitive tennis in a fun, inclusive environment.

The atmosphere over the two days was electric. Players gave their all on court, not just to record wins for their school but in the way they encouraged teammates, respected opponents and embraced the spirit of the game. As noted in the referee's report, the attitude and behaviour from all involved was exemplary, and this tone was set early on thanks to the incredible enthusiasm from school staff.

To see nearly 500 players representing their schools with such pride is exactly what grassroots tennis is all about.



The support from teachers cannot be overstated. Across all age groups and match formats, their energy, encouragement and sheer commitment to making the day a success was on full display. From managing teams and scorecards to boosting morale and rallying players through long matches, their dedication helped create a memorable experience for every child taking part.

Fun events like the Surrey Schools Festival are about far more than match wins and scorelines. They're about creating memories, building confidence and helping young people discover a lifelong love of tennis. It was particularly heartening to see how many of the players, regardless of ability or result, left with smiles on their faces, having made new friends and enjoyed the experience of representing their school with pride.

This year's event was also a testament to the growing diversity and inclusivity within the sport. We saw new schools enter for the first time, a wider mix of teams across different year groups, and more schools embracing the opportunity to make tennis a bigger part of their sporting offer.

As we look ahead, the Surrey Schools Festival will continue to play a key role in our mission to grow grassroots tennis within schools across Surrey. With participation numbers like these and so much appetite from our Surrey schools, the future looks bright!

A huge thank you to every teacher, pupil, volunteer and parent who helped make this year's event such a success. You've not only supported the next generation of tennis players - you've inspired them.

A TRUE SURREY LEGEND RETIRES FROM VOLUNTEERING ROLE

Anne Pitt, reflects on her volunteering career

Volunteering in tennis has been a rewarding and enriching experience that has allowed me to give back to the sport I love, while supporting the venue where I enjoyed my tennis from when I joined in 1976—namely, Woking Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club.

Once my children reached school age (1986), I took on the role of Hon. Sec. Now I am going to make myself feel very old... no computers back then! All membership records were kept in a handwritten card index. I attended committee meetings complete with my shorthand notebook, wrote minutes by hand, and typed them up for distribution by post. I attended local fixture meetings with a huge sheet of paper, all colour-coded for the various teams I needed to arrange matches for throughout the season. No spreadsheets for me! I worked

from home; phone calls galore (much to the irritation of my family), and no emails, text messages, or WhatsApp to help. I remember every year having to drive across Surrey to pick up the club's allocation of Wimbledon tickets (valuable cargo), then distributing them to the lucky winners of a laborious ballot system.

However, the rewards were great—seeing the club thrive and go from strength to strength, with a brilliant group of coaches and enthusiastic volunteers. Together, we became involved in the junior programme at the club, running a very popular club night every Friday. We started an ITF Vets Tournament (not dog doctors, as one of our members thought!). Following on from this, for many years I was Hon. Sec of the local Chaucer League; from match cards and results being sent out by post to being involved in creating an interactive website where results could

be recorded online.

In amongst all this, I was honoured to be invited to sit on the Tennis Surrey (now Surrey Tennis!) Council. Another very rewarding post—seeing firsthand the huge commitment of so many willing volunteers running tennis in Surrey, and getting to understand the many different ways that our clubs are run. The Council comprised an eclectic group of people, all with very different skill sets, which was fascinating to be a part of and to learn so much from them and their various experiences—knowledge I was able to share with WLTC. My final volunteering role has been running the Men's Open Doubles Knockout competition. Fortunately, all done via email, with few hiccups and matches played in good spirit, and results passed on to me promptly without the need to chase... too often.

The impact of volunteering in tennis extends far beyond the immediate tasks and responsibilities. Volunteers create a sense of community, foster a love for the sport, and inspire others to get involved. The efforts of volunteers should lead to increased participation, improved facilities, and a stronger support network for players of all ages. Moreover, volunteering has provided me with personal satisfaction, skill development—for me this mostly involved being forced to become computer literate—but most importantly, the opportunity to form lasting friendships.

Would you like to get involved with Surrey Tennis and become a valued volunteer? We have a number of opportunities across our network, so please get in touch via admin@surrey.

No spreadsheets, no emails, just colour-coded paper and a lot of phone calls!



SURREY.TENNIS

SURREY COUNTY

Championships

2025

SAVE THE DATE

24 - 31 AUGUST

surrey.tennis/surrey-county-championships

YOUR BUSINESS COULD BE A PARTNER OF SURREY TENNIS

At Surrey Tennis, our aim is to serve and support our diverse community of coaches, players, officials, venues, and more – with the ultimate goal of increasing participation, improving facilities, and raising player standards across Surrey. With over 125 years of success, we are proud to see tennis thriving in the county and contributing to unprecedented achievements at the top levels of the game. We've seen Joe Salisbury become our first Grand Slam champion, Jodie Burrage break into the WTA top 100, and Jack Draper reach the ATP top 5 and win his first Masters title – to name just a few.

Benefits to your organisation



Play a part in the next generation of British talent.



Invitations to finals days and award ceremonies.



Benefit from our audience of 200,000 adults & children playing tennis at least once a month.



Opportunities to purchase tickets to grass court events.



Associate your brand with a leader in British tennis.



Demonstrate your commitment to CSR objectives.

So if you would like to become a partner of Surrey Tennis and learn more about how your business can get involved, simply get in touch! We would be delighted to talk you through what's possible. You can contact us at commercial@surrey.tennis.

SURREY performance

JACK DRAPER MAKES SURREY HISTORY

Our very own Jack Draper has made Surrey Tennis history by breaking into the worlds ATP top 10 rankings after claiming his first Masters 1000 title at Indian Wells!

The 23-year-old from Sutton defeated world No. 2 Carlos Alcaraz in the semi-finals before overpowering Holger Rune 6–2, 6–2 in the final – arguably the biggest win of his career so far. In doing so, Jack joins an elite group of British men to crack the top 10 in the Open Era, alongside legends like Andy Murray, Tim Henman, and Greg Rusedski.

From his early days at Sutton Tennis & Squash Club to the global stage, Jack’s journey is an inspiration to young players right across Surrey.

Congratulations, Jack—everyone at Surrey Tennis is immensely proud!



AN IMPRESSIVE START TO THE COUNTY CUP RACE FOR SURREY TEAMS

It’s been an impressive start to the County Cup Race for our Surrey teams, with outstanding performances headlined by our incredible 18U teams, who were both crowned national champions!

Our 18U Boys and Girls teams battled hard in Division 1 to become national champions, securing a historic double win. It’s an amazing achievement that reflects the talent, teamwork, and commitment of everyone involved – from players and captains to parents and our dedicated office team.

In another committed display, our 9U girls’ and boys’ teams showed exceptional spirit and skill, finishing a fantastic 2nd place in their events. Over two exciting days of competition, they played with heart and delivered standout performances that made Surrey proud.

ANOTHER INCREDIBLE WELCOME TO SURREY EVENT

We kicked off 2025 in style with our very first ‘Welcome to Surrey’ day and what a fantastic way to start the year!

Held last month, the day brought together 31 eager young players for a brilliant introduction to county tennis. Led by our U10 Lead, David Lovejoy, and his dedicated county training team, the event was packed with energy, encouragement, and plenty of competitive action on court. A huge

thank you to all the players, parents, and supporters who helped make the day such a success.

Here’s to an exciting year ahead and of course, welcome to Surrey!

It was a brilliant day with every child smiling & working hard all day!

SURREY performance

SURREY INTERNATIONAL CHAMPIONS: FEBRUARY - APRIL

ATP / WTA / ITF / Tennis Europe / ITF WCTT / ITF WTT

ALASTAIR GRAY

February / Singles / ITF / M25 Glasgow

MYLES KIELY

February / Singles / Tennis Europe / Lexus Junior International Liverpool

SOPHIA CUNINGHAME

February / Doubles / Tennis Europe / Lexus Junior International Liverpool

RHYS LAWLOR

February / Doubles / ITF / J60 Bloemfontein

ARTHUR FERY

February / Singles / ITF / M25 Roehampton

OLIVER BONDING

February / Singles / ITF / M15 Lannion

GREGORY SLADE

February / Singles / ITF / Bolton Indoor ITF2 Wheelchair Tennis Tournament

LIAM CHANNON

February / Doubles / ITF / J60 Oslo

OPHELIA KORPANEC DAVIES

March / Singles & Doubles / ITF / J100 Potchefstroom

MARK WHITEHOUSE

March / Doubles / ATP / Crete Challenger 1

EMILY APPLETON

March / Singles / ITF / W15 Trois-Rivieres

BROOKE BLACK

March / Doubles / ITF / J300 Nonthaburi



SURREY performance

SURREY INTERNATIONAL CHAMPIONS: FEBRUARY - APRIL

ATP / WTA / ITF / Tennis Europe / ITF WCTT / ITF WTT

MARK CEBAN

March / Singles & Doubles / ITF / J100 Loughborough

JACK DRAPER

March / Singles / ATP / BNP Paribas Open Indian Wells

HERMIONE KORPANCE DAVIES

April / Doubles / Tennis Europe / TEJT 1 U14 ENSANA Piestany Cup U14 2025

HANNAH KLUGMAN

February / Doubles / ITF / J60 Bloemfontein

ARTHUR FERY

April / Singles / ITF / J300 Vrsar

MARK CEBAN

April / Singles / ITF / J200 Istres

HERMIONE KORPANEC DAVIES

April / Singles / ITF / J30 Accra

GREGORY SLADE

April / Doubles / ITF / ITF2S Miki, Hyogo

MAXIMILIAN CARRIER

April / Doubles / ITF / J200 Aldershot

GINNY CHEN

April / Singles & Doubles / Tennis Europe / Jug Open 2025 U14



COUNTY CUP RACE HEATS UP

It's been a fantastic start to the season for Surrey, who currently sit at the top of the leaderboard with 62 points in the County Cup standings

Our 18 & Under teams kicked off the year in style, finishing as double champions and setting the tone for the

rest of the campaign. We've also seen strong early contributions from our younger age groups, with the 9U and 10U players picking up valuable points. With Middlesex and Cheshire hot on our heels, it's shaping up to be a close and competitive race!

JODIE BURRAGE IMPRESSES AT BJK CUP

Surrey’s own Jodie Burrage delivered a standout performance at the 2025 Billie Jean King Cup Qualifiers, playing a pivotal role in Great Britain’s advancement to the Finals in Shenzhen this September

Burrage was called up to the Lexus GB squad following Emma Raducanu’s withdrawal. Seizing the opportunity, she partnered with Katie Boulter in a decisive doubles match against the Netherlands. Despite their limited experience as a duo, the pair showcased exceptional synergy and dominated their opponents, Suzan Lamens and Demi Schuurs, with a commanding 6-2, 6-2 victory.

Reflecting on the match, Burrage expressed her pride: “That was my first win for my country – I’m unbelievably proud to say that. It was great the way

the day unfolded, the pressure was on us but we came out firing and I was very happy to do it with one of my best friends as well.”

Captain Anne Keothavong’s strategic decision to pair Burrage with Boulter, opting for their raw power over traditional doubles experience, proved to be a masterstroke. Their victory not only secured Great Britain’s spot in the Finals but also highlighted the depth and resilience of the team.

Burrage’s performance in The Hague underscores her growing prominence in British tennis. Burrage’s contribution serves as a testament to the strength and potential of British women’s tennis and also marks an exciting future for womens and girls tennis across Surrey. Well done Jodie!



BECOME A SURREY TENNIS MEMBER VENUE

We wanted to remind all venues who have not yet joined that you can now become a Surrey Tennis Member Venue, unlocking a wide range of benefits – including access to interest-free loans, discounted equipment, entry into Surrey competitions, and more.

As a not-for-profit registered charity, 100% of your membership fee goes directly back into grassroots tennis – helping to grow participation, improve facilities, and support venues and players across the County.

While there is no hard deadline to join in 2025, venues wishing to compete in the 2025/2026 Winter competition season must become members by then, so we encourage early action to avoid missing out.

If you're curious about the thinking behind this change, we've created a short video from our Chairman explaining why we are introducing the Surrey Tennis Venue Membership. You can watch it at www.surrey.tennis/pricing-plans/membership.

We understand that this is a significant change for many of our Surrey venues, schools and local authorities, and we appreciate that it may raise a number of questions – such as:

- What is the difference between Associate and Affiliate membership?
- How do our members benefit from the venue joining Surrey Tennis?
- How is Surrey Tennis membership different to LTA Registration?
- Will we pay a pro-rata rate if we join later in the year?

That's why we've put together a comprehensive FAQ section, which covers many of the common queries. You can explore the answers on our dedicated Surrey Tennis Membership page, or reach out to us directly via admin@surrey.tennis.



WIN TICKETS TO ROLAND-GARROS

All Surrey Tennis Member Venues will automatically be entered into a prize draw on Tuesday 14th May to win 2x annex Roland-Garros tickets (ground passes) for Saturday 31st May.

These tickets offer access to the iconic French Open grounds – an incredible opportunity to soak up the atmosphere of one of the most prestigious clay court tournaments in the world.

The winning club will be drawn on 14th May, so make sure your venue is a registered Surrey Tennis Member by then to be in with a chance! Good luck – we can't wait to see who wins! For more information, feel free to contact: admin@surrey.tennis

A reminder that your club or venue can become a Surrey Tennis Member Venue by heading to www.surrey.tennis

ANYONE FOR REAL TENNIS?

BY *Andy Anderson*

Anyone for tennis? Good, let's play – inside, of course. But watch out for Hazards – taking a ball off the tambour is tricky. Remember that a shot in the grille is a sure-fire winner, as is one in the winning gallery. If you are 40-love down, do what you can to set a chase, even if it's only 'chase a yard worse', or even 'chase the line'. Or blast a winning ball into the dedans; off the wall is the best tactic here.

Clear as mud? Don't worry, all will become clear after a few hours on the Real Tennis court inside Hampton Court Palace, a hidden jewel in the stunning historic building just over the Thames. The ancestral home of Real Tennis since 1530, this ancient game of kings (and commoners) is still played here today by 500+ dedicated members of the Royal Tennis Court Club (RTC) – and it's open to all.

Real Tennis lays claim to being the world's oldest racquet sport – that imposter Lawn Tennis evolved from it. It is similar to the lawn game in scoring (15-love, deuce, advantage, game, set, match) but different in many ways – all of them interesting. It is played indoors in what might be described as a squash court on steroids. There's tactics, spin, cut (the phrase 'cut to the chase' came from Real Tennis), speed, aggression, and subtlety. There are serves so fiendishly difficult to return they have their own names: the Railroad, the Bobble, the Boomerang (which rarely comes back)

Sometimes called 'chess on a tennis court' Real Tennis can be played by all ages and levels of ability. RTC members include teenagers taking their first lessons and 80+ year-old players, male and female, who might now creak a bit on court



but can still blast a ball at 90mph through a letterbox at 40 paces on their day.

A clever handicap system means players of unequal abilities can still have a tight match. There are singles and doubles games on offer. There are tournaments, local and national, and opportunities for private lessons from some of the top players in the world. There are social functions in the Club garden, and cosy private clubrooms in which to unwind after a match, in front of a roaring fire, glass of wine in hand, while puzzled palace visitors peer through the panes at your private palatial paradise.

Joining the club is simple: an introductory lesson with a top Professional is advised first. If smitten, there is an age-related joining fee, quarterly subs and an hour's singles is £15 per person. For playing on one of the world's oldest sports courts, in a Royal palace, it's great value. Chase on!

If you are interested the club can arrange an introductory lesson with one of the three club Professionals, racket and ball hire included. Contact the Royal Tennis Court office: info@royaltenniscourt.com or call 020 8977 3015.

Henry VIII really did play tennis at Hampton Court, many times. In his athletic youth he was a fine player, and as he got older and fatter he still won his matches – if his opponent knew what was good for him...

WE WANT YOUR CASE STUDIES!

At Surrey Tennis, we're proud to work closely with clubs and venues to support their development and celebrate their success. One of the best ways we can do this is by sharing great stories – and that's where we need your help. We're looking for short case studies that show how your venue is improving, growing, or trying something new. Whether you've installed floodlights, resurfaced courts, upgraded your clubhouse, or launched a new social tennis initiative, we'd love to hear about it. If your story could inspire or inform other venues in Surrey, it's worth sharing. Submitting is easy – just complete our simple form and tell us what challenge you faced, what you did, and what the result has been. We'll do the rest. Your story might even feature in our next newsletter or quarterly magazine. Let's celebrate your hard work – and help strengthen Surrey tennis together! To read our case studies and to submit your own, just head to www.surrey.tennis/case-studies. For any questions about our case studies, get in touch via admin@surrey.tennis



INTRODUCING YOUR CLUB OF THE YEAR!

Surrey Tennis is delighted to introduce Weybridge Lawn Tennis Club (WLTC) as your 2025 Club of the Year – a well-deserved recognition for a venue that has gone above and beyond to support its members, reach new audiences, and deliver truly inclusive community tennis.

Over the past year, Weybridge LTC has undergone a remarkable transformation, not just in terms of its physical facilities, but also in its commitment to accessibility, outreach, and grassroots development. The club has completed a full surface upgrade, becoming an all-artificial clay venue. This not only enhances the playing experience year-round but also makes the game more accessible to a wider range of players thanks to its fully wheelchair-accessible layout – a standout achievement that puts inclusivity at the heart of the club.

But it's not just about courts and surfaces. Weybridge LTC has also revitalised its coaching structure, bringing in a new team that has made immediate and lasting impact.

The coaches have developed strong links with local schools, charities, and community groups, opening the doors of the club to groups who may never have considered tennis as an option. From running free taster sessions for schoolchildren, to working with charities and welcoming refugee families into the sport, the club has demonstrated that tennis can – and should – be for everyone.

WLTC's junior programme has also gone from strength to strength. The club now boasts a thriving pipeline of young talent, with participation numbers on the rise and players enjoying success both locally and beyond. By combining a welcoming environment with high-quality coaching, the club has created an ideal setting for young players to fall in love with the game.

The club hasn't lost sight of the value of recreational and social tennis either. New formats, friendly competitions, and club-wide initiatives have kept long-standing members engaged while attracting new ones through the gate. The club's efforts show what's possible when energy, expertise and heart come together with a clear vision for growth.

Surrey Tennis would like to congratulate everyone involved at Weybridge LTC – committee members, volunteers, coaches, and players – for their incredible work over the past year!

YOUR BUSINESS COULD FEATURE HERE!

ADVERTISE IN THE SURREY TENNIS QUARTERLY &
REACH 4,300+ ENGAGED TENNIS FANS

65.8% OPEN RATE*

5,000+ TOTAL OPENS*

52.7% CLICK-THROUGH*

*On average per edition



ADVERTISING
SPACE FROM
£250
per edition
WITH DESIGN SUPPORT AVAILABLE

Contact admin@surrey.tennis for more info

HI, WE'RE SURREY TENNIS

Nice to meet you

Despite being over 125 years old – and having built a fantastic partnership with Surrey's venues, players, coaches, officials, volunteers and tennis supporters – we often find that many people aren't fully aware of who we are. So, we thought we'd put together a short Q&A to help explain who we are, what we do, and how we support tennis across the county. Enjoy!

How is Surrey Tennis different from the LTA?

Surrey Tennis and the LTA are totally separate entities and as a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity Surrey Tennis is guided by its own rules and policies. Although we work in close partnership with the LTA, we adopt our own strategies when it comes to growing tennis in Surrey.

What impact could Surrey Tennis actually have on my club?

We pride ourselves on the ways we can support Surrey clubs and venues. How do we help? More than you might realise! We help venues with safeguarding advice, financial planning, funding opportunities, increasing participation, improving access to competitions, and navigating LTA systems and resources. Just get in touch to learn more!

I'm a coach working in Surrey – how can Surrey Tennis support me?

From bursaries and financial help to expert guidance and our industry-leading Surrey Coaches Group, we're passionate about helping coaches grow and succeed! Just contact tim.sagar@surrey.tennis to learn more!

How is Surrey Tennis building a community of clubs, coaches, players, officials and volunteers throughout Surrey?

From our annual Surrey Showcase and an ever-growing library of case studies to our coffee mornings and club visit, we are always trying to create spaces for coaches, club officials, volunteers and players to connect, share, and support one another. We believe community is the

heart of everything we do.

I'm a club-level player who enjoys singles and doubles. What competitions are available through Surrey Tennis?

Plenty! From the Wilson Surrey Leagues – which welcome over 10,000 players annually – to our extensive knockout competitions offering singles and doubles events for players aged 15 right through to 90+, we cater for all ages and standards. If you're keen to get involved or want to find out more, just drop us a line at competitions@surrey.tennis.

Our club wants to grow – how can Surrey Tennis support us?

That's exactly what we're here for. Your local Tennis Development Manager (TDM) can help you with funding advice, diversity and inclusion support, safeguarding tools, coach connections, and more. Whether you're looking to attract new members or improve your facilities, we'll help guide you through the next steps. Surrey support is available to all Surrey Member Venues, so simply get in touch via tim.sagar@surrey.tennis to learn more!

This all sounds brilliant, how can we start to benefit from what Surrey Tennis can offer?

Why not set up a meeting with our Tennis Development Manager, Tim Sagar, he would be happy to talk with you about how you can benefit from Surrey's various offerings and initiatives! You can get in touch with Tim via tim.sagar@surrey.tennis.



SURREY.TENNIS

DIVERSITY and INCLUSION

BRITISH OPEN RETURNS TO ROEHAMPTON AS STARS PREPARE FOR WIMBLEDON



Wheelchair and junior tennis return to the grass courts of Roehampton this summer, as tickets go on sale for the Lexus British Open, the final UK-based event before The Championships, Wimbledon.

Taking place in the run-up to SW19, the event promises world-class tennis and a close-up experience with some of the sport’s most exciting names. British Paralympic stars Alfie Hewett, Gordon Reid, Andy Lapthorne and Lucy Shuker will headline the wheelchair competitions, joined by rising stars from the global junior circuit, including past champions of the US Open and other Grand Slams.

Now in its second year as a combined event, the British Open will once again feature both ITF J300 junior events and elite UNIQLO Wheelchair Tennis Tour draws across men’s, women’s and quad categories. With Roehampton’s grass courts offering the perfect tune-up for Wimbledon, the event continues to grow in status and atmosphere.

Speaking about the tournament, Wimbledon champion Alfie Hewett said: “It’s becoming one of the standout events in the wheelchair tennis calendar. Fans can get up close, see the biggest stars, and experience a brilliant atmosphere in a unique setting.”

Tickets are just £10 for adults, with free admission for children, and are valid for the full six-day event — making it one of the best-value events in British tennis. For more information and to book tickets, visit lta.org.uk.

INCLUSIVITY FUND SUCCESS STORY

Surrey Tennis launched its Inclusivity Fund at the end of last year. This is designed to provide financial assistance for projects that are being delivered by Surrey registered venues and coaches which promote diversity and inclusion in tennis and padel and increase participation to under-represented communities.

One project that we have recently supported is Andy Jeffrey from Sutton Tennis Academy. Andy delivers tennis sessions to the Royal Marsden Children’s hospital. The sessions are 1 hour long and are delivered weekly. They are offered to children receiving cancer treatment at the hospital. They have between 4-8 children attend each week and ages range from 3-15 years old. The sessions are all delivered on site.

The sessions are provided as part of their PE education as they cannot attend school during treatment. It is also the first time most children experience tennis.

Surrey Tennis are thrilled that the Inclusivity Fund has been able to provide additional support to enable the sessions to continue to thrive and offer light relief to young patients at the Royal Marsden.

To find out more about the Surrey Inclusivity Fund, please visit our website – <https://www.surreytennis.inclusion>



INTRODUCING THE ACEZ PROGRAMME

Launched in 2023 by Access Sport and the LTA, the Acez Tennis Programme offers fun, inclusive sessions for disabled, deaf and neurodivergent young people aged 5–25, as well as those with long-term health conditions. Delivered by 27 venues across the UK, Acez empowers clubs and parks to offer pan-disability tennis in a welcoming, family-friendly setting. Parents, carers and siblings are encouraged to join in too. Clubs receive start-up funding, free training and tailored support. With plans to grow further in 2025, Acez is opening up the game to more communities. Find out more at www.accesssport.org.uk/tennis.

WOULD YOUR VENUE LIKE TO BE MORE INCLUSIVE?

If your club is looking to become more inclusive, we're here to help. Surrey Tennis can offer guidance on creating a welcoming environment for all players, including those with disabilities, long-term health conditions, or additional needs. We can support you in launching inclusive programmes, help you access relevant training and funding, and provide one-to-one advice on how to make your facilities and sessions more accessible. We'll also guide you through LTA initiatives and ensure your club is well-placed to offer meaningful opportunities to a wider community of players. You can get in touch with our Tennis Development Manager, Tim Sagar, via tim.sagar@surrey.tennis.



SURREY coaching



We sat down with Ana Lopez, our latest Coach of the Quarter, to discuss her journey from Spain to Surrey, her coaching philosophy, the challenges she's overcome, and what drives her to inspire the next generation of players.

Growing up in Spain, how has your international background influenced your approach to tennis and your experience within the UK tennis community?

Coming from a Spanish background has definitely shaped how I coach. In Spain, training is centred around discipline, mental toughness and consistency, and I try to bring that mindset to my sessions here in the UK. Coaching here has exposed me to a range of styles and approaches, which has helped me grow as a coach and better connect with players and fellow coaches.

Growing up, were there any other sports you played? Was tennis always the goal?

I played a few sports growing up – mostly team sports like basketball – but tennis was always my passion. My dad and sister both played, so it was always part of my life. Whether or not it became a career, I was always working towards playing at a high level.

How has your approach to getting the best out of players evolved over the years?

At the start of my coaching journey, I focused heavily on technique. But over time, I've realised how important confidence, mindset and resilience are in performance. Every player is different, with different personalities and

challenges, so my approach is now much more about creating an environment where they can grow, compete and enjoy the process.

Have there been any mentors who've significantly shaped your coaching journey?

Absolutely. I've been lucky to learn from some brilliant mentors – Alison and Roger Taylor, who continue to mentor me today. They taught me the value of patience and long-term development, and that coaching isn't just about chasing results. They also showed me how important it is to genuinely care about players, not just as athletes but as people.

What challenges have you faced, and how have you overcome them?

One of the biggest challenges has been breaking through stereotypes as a female coach in what is still a male-dominated field. I've had to prove myself and work hard to earn the respect of players – and sometimes other coaches. But those challenges have motivated me. Coaching isn't about gender – it's about knowledge, leadership and the ability to connect with players.

What are your short- and long-term goals within tennis?

Short-term, I'm focused on completing my Level 4 Senior Performance course this year and continuing to support the competitive juniors in our programme at Esher. Long-term, I'd like to take on more leadership within performance coaching – whether that's mentoring younger coaches, working with national-level players or creating inclusive environments that keep more girls in the sport.

What's your approach to inspiring the next generation of players?

I believe in building a club environment where players feel supported, motivated and excited to train. Hard work can be fun, and I try to lead by example. Being a positive role model helps younger players grow not just in tennis but in confidence too.



SURREY coaching

What have you enjoyed most about being part of the Surrey Tennis community?

The sense of community. There’s a real passion for tennis in Surrey, and I love being surrounded by coaches, players and parents who are all pulling in the same direction – developing talent and keeping the game thriving.

And finally – what do you enjoy beyond tennis?

enjoy going to the gym and doing Pilates, which helps me stay physically strong and mentally sharp. I also love a good spa day – recovery and self-care are so important when you’re constantly giving energy to others. Travelling has helped me connect with people from different cultures and brought fresh ideas into my coaching. All of this keeps me balanced, energised and ready to give my best to the players and the programme.



LTA INSTRUCTOR (LEVEL 2) FEMALE ONLY CORE TRAINING

Course 1:

Venue: AELTC Community Tennis Centre (Raynes Park)
Dates: Sunday 20th Jul 2025, Sunday 27th Jul 2025, Sunday 10th Aug 2025, Sunday 7th Sep 2025
Time: 9-5pm

Course 2

Venue: Bromley Tennis Centre
Dates: Saturday 13th Sep 2025, Saturday 20th Sep 2025, Saturday 4th Oct 2025, Sunday 19th Oct 2025
Time: 9-5pm
To learn more and to book, you can contact tim.sagar@surrey.tennis



VOLUNTEER ACTIVATORS FOR FREE PARK TENNIS IN RUNNYMEDE

Runnymede Borough Council are interested in launching at least one weekly Free Park Tennis session this Spring/Summer at any of the below park sites:
Heathervale Recreation Ground,
Chertsey Recreation Ground, Ottershaw Memorial Fields, Victory Park.

In order to launch, a park site must have at least 2 fully trained Free Park Tennis

Activators that have completed the online training and have a DBS check via the portal here – [Barclays Free Park Tennis Activators | Tennis Volunteers | LTA](#)
If you know of anyone that would be interested in supporting a session or two, please contact – amie.martin@lta.org.uk



Being a tennis coach can often feel like a solo journey — but it doesn't have to be. That's where the Surrey Coaches Group comes in.

Run by coaches, for coaches, the Surrey Coaches Group is a growing community of like-minded professionals who are passionate about development, collaboration and raising coaching standards across the county. With over 180 members already signed up, it offers a strong and supportive network designed to help you thrive both on and off the court.

Membership includes access to a packed calendar of CPD workshops, delivered by some of the leading voices in British tennis. These sessions cover everything from on-court drills to off-court business skills and are a great way to stay sharp, earn CPD points, and continue your professional growth. Members also benefit from exclusive discounts, resource sharing, peer networking, and opportunities to discuss the realities of coaching in a practical, no-pressure environment.

WHEELCHAIR AWARENESS OF STANDARDS DAY CPD - SAVE THE DATE

We are excited to share information for Surrey Coaches Group Members about an upcoming CPD event due to take place at the Lexus British Open Wheelchair event in Roehampton on Thursday 3 July. This is to be confirmed in the next week or so, but current details are below:

- Date and Time: 3 July – 9.30am to 1.30pm
- Venue: Wimbledon Qualifying and Community Sports Centre, Roehampton (SW15 5JT)
- CPD: There will be CPD credits available via completion of LTA Independent Learning form
- Cost: £10

To learn more contact tim.sagar@surrey.tennis



KEY COACHING CONTACTS

We have a number of key contacts within Surrey Tennis to help from a coaching perspective:

Tim Sagar (Tennis Development Manager): tim.sagar@surrey.tennis

Justin Sherring (Performance Manager): performance@surrey.tennis

Matt Trevail (Coach Committee Chair): headoftennis@wltcc.org.uk



WANT TO BOOK A SURREY PADEL CONSULTATION?

Surrey Tennis is proud to support the growth of padel across the county and if your venue is considering adding padel or expanding its existing provision, we're here to help. From helping venues understand the current padel landscape to exploring funding, competition formats and community engagement, we offer free consultations to guide you through the process. To book a consultation or learn more, contact [tim.sagar@surrey.tennis](mailto:sagar@surrey.tennis).

LTA & UK PADEL PARTNER TO ELEVATE PADEL COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS

The LTA has announced a new strategic partnership with UK PADEL to support and expand the UK PADEL County Championships, which will now be officially sanctioned as a Grade 3 event starting in 2024. This means players are now able to earn LTA ranking points, marking a major step forward for the sport's domestic competitive structure. Looking ahead to 2025, the Championships will expand to include an Under 18s category, adding to the existing Open, Over 40s, Over 50s, and Over 60s events. This addition will provide a new platform for young players to represent their counties.

The partnership combines the LTA's longstanding expertise in county-level competition with UK PADEL's focus on growing grassroots and amateur padel across the country. Together, they aim to strengthen participation, grow the competition's reach, and make the County Championships more accessible to players of all ages and abilities.

Looking ahead to 2025, the Championships will expand to include an Under 18s category, adding to the existing Open, Over 40s, Over 50s, and Over 60s events. This addition will provide a new platform for young players to represent their counties.

The partnership combines the LTA's longstanding expertise in county-level competition with UK PADEL's focus on growing grassroots and amateur padel across the country. Together, they aim to strengthen participation, grow the competition's reach, and make the County Championships more accessible to players of all ages and abilities.



NEXT EDITION

The next edition of the STQ will be released in July '25 so keep an eye out. A reminder you can sign up to receive the STQ by heading to: www.surrey.tennis/stq.

If you would like to contribute to the STQ or if you would like to advertise in the STQ, you can head to www.surrey.tennis/stq or email lewis.woodham@surrey.tennis.



KEY CONTACTS

Here are a selection of key contacts from the Surrey Tennis office:

Tim Sagar, Tennis Development Manager:

tim.sagar@surrey.tennis

Deborah Slater, Office Manager:

deborah.slater@surrey.tennis

Mandy Spicer, Competitions Administrator:

mandy.spicer@surrey.tennis

David Lovejoy, 10U Lead:

10Uperformancelead@surrey.tennis

Wider Surrey Tennis team:

Lewis Woodham

lewis.woodham@surrey.tennis

Justin Sherring

performance@surrey.tennis

Julie Duckworth

julie.duckworth@surrey.tennis

Chris Risebro

chris.risebro@surrey.tennis

